

REMARKS

Claims 20 to 24, 26, 27, 54 to 58, 60, 61, 80 to 85, 87, and 88 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 20 to 24, 26, 27, 54 to 58, 60, 61, and 81 to 85 are allowable.

Applicant also thanks the Examiner for the indication (in a telephone conversation on July 12, 2004) that claims 87 and 88 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their base claims, namely independent claim 86. Without conceding the propriety of the rejection, and solely to obtain early issuance of a patent, Applicant has amended claims 87 and 88 to include all of the limitations of base claim 86, and has cancelled claim 86.

Applicant also thanks the Examiner for taking the time to discuss this application on September 13, 2004. During that telephone conversation, the Examiner indicated that claims 25 and 59 should have been rejected over the Takahashi reference (since those claims roughly correspond to claim 86, which was rejected over Takahashi). Without conceding the propriety of the rejection, and solely to obtain early issuance of a patent, Applicant has amended claims 26 and 27 to include all of the limitations of base claim 25, and has cancelled claim 25. Applicant has also amended claims 60 and 61 to include all of the limitations of base claim 59, and has cancelled claim 59.

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Attorney's Docket No.: 09945-006001
Client's Ref.: CTR-3 (Sonar Scanner)

There being no other issues, Applicant submits that the entire application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

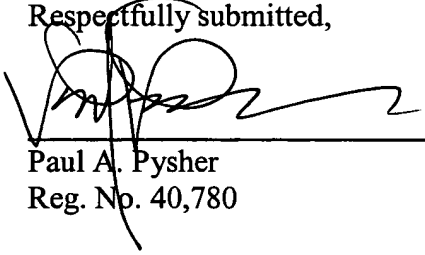
Applicant's attorney can be reached at the address shown below. Telephone calls regarding this application should be directed to 617-521-7896.

Please apply any deficiencies, not covered by the enclosed check, to Deposit Account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 09945-006001.

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Respectfully submitted,



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